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THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE

CHATTERIS MAN'S INVENTION.

Safety Device For Locking Railway Carriage Doors.

to railway passengers through the opening of carriage doors while trains are in motion would be prevented by the at the bottoms of the doors. The whole mechanism has a reversible action so that a

Inventor Charles Dring

Undergrads drag tram down streets – 1923

The Cambridge undergraduates have once more been the source of innocent amusement.

The "rag" consisted of the purchase of one of the old four-wheeled tram cars that used in bygone days to be both a convenience and an adornment to the streets of Cambridge.

On Saturday, when it was expected that the tram would be towed in state through Cambridge streets, the authorities were alarmed by the appearance of numbers of undergraduates outside the yard where the tram was stored.

At this moment, another tram made its appearance: a tram of Lilliputian dimensions, towed with steady ropes by a happy band of undergraduates.

The miniature car was solemnly dragged into the centre of town and along old tram lines, which have, for many years, been a useless feature in King's Parade.

New invention for train carriages – 1920

Accidents to railway passengers through the opening of the carriage doors while trains are in motion would be prevented by a new device which has been patented by Charles Dring of Chatteris.

The invention relates to an improved arrangement for locking railway carriage doors on both sides of the train simultaneously by the operation of a lever on the engine.

If desired, levers can be provided in the guard's van as well. Simple in construction, the device can be fitted to all kinds of railway carriages.

Mr Dring, the inventor, is an agricultural labourer but was formerly employed at the Chatteris Engineering Works.

He has a large number of newspaper cuttings of accidents that would have been prevented had his system been in use.

Continually seeing reports of people falling from trains while in motion, he thought something ought to be done to stop the carriage door peril.

He now claims to have invented an effective lock after years of experimenting.

Mr Dring has been warmly congratulated by several well-known gentleman on his invention.

'Contrivances of the Evil One' – 1904

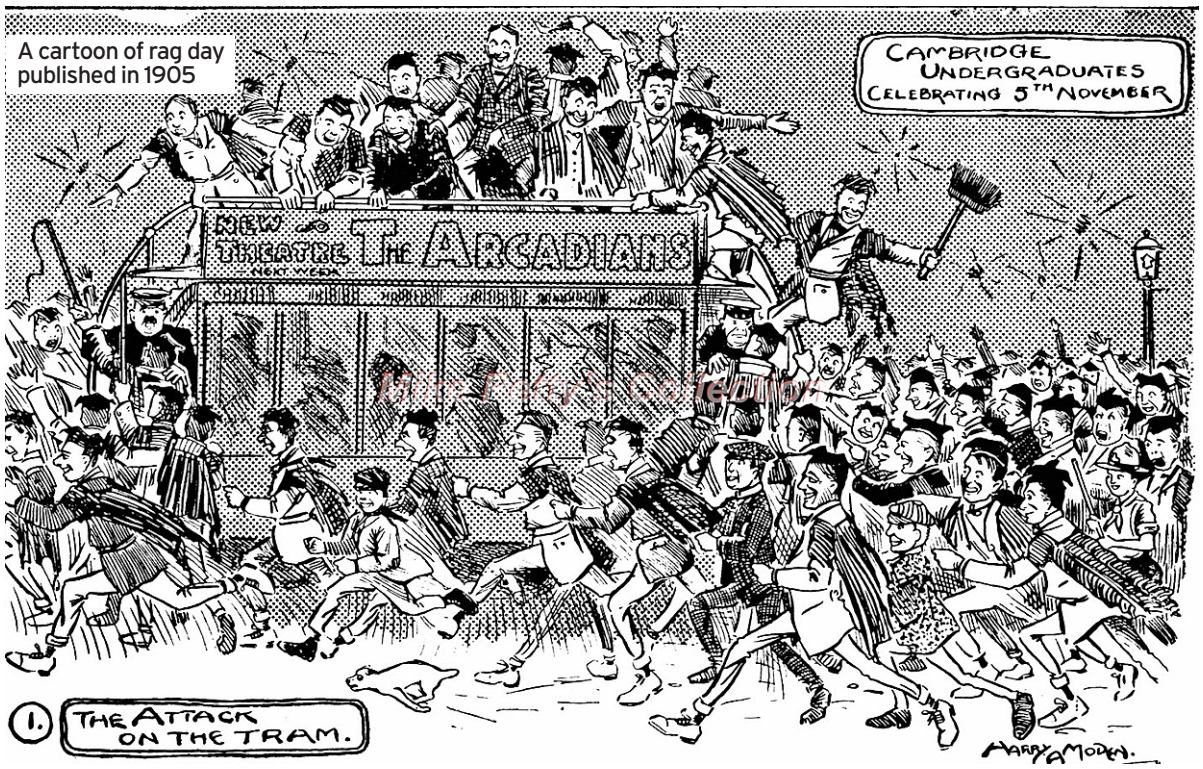
No reasonable person expects to find a ferryman on duty after ten at night and is reconciled to the necessity of grinding himself across the few yards of water.

About midnight, a husband and his wife returning from Chesterton determined to make a shortcut across the river as rain was pouring down in pitiless fashion.

The husband seized the handle of the grind to get to the other side as quickly as possible. But when they got to the middle, the ferry stuck fast, nor would it go back no matter how hard he strained and pushed.

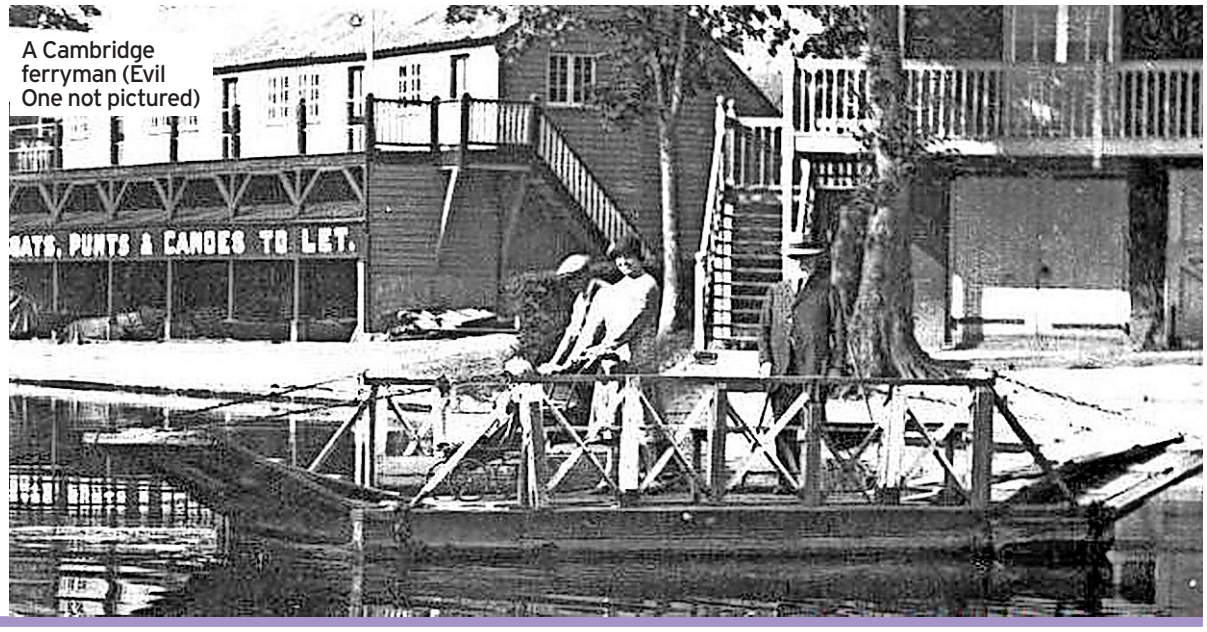
For ten minutes, they wrestled with that ferry in the pouring rain and were just about to shout for help when the unwieldy affair began to work and they got back to the bank they had left.

As they walked around the road home they decided that ferries were contrivances of the Evil One.


CAMBRIDGE UNDERGRADUATES CELEBRATING 5TH NOVEMBER
NEW THEATRE NEXT WEEK THE ARCADIANS
1. THE ATTACK ON THE TRAM.
HARRY A MOORE.

A cartoon of rag day published in 1905

The new Festival Theatre opened in 1926



A Cambridge ferryman (Evil One not pictured)